At five to the family this would make 13,000,000 families. Hardly one of these families has a cooking stove which cost less than \$10, or \$9.50 more than the ing this by the number of families we have an expenditure of \$123,500,000 more than the Japanese on the item of cook-

Take the matter of carpets and other furniture and you will see the enormous amount of capital that we have to invest to live in comparison with the Japanese. It would be a very low average indeed to say that the household furniture of the families of the United States cost more than \$125 per family. It would be high to say that the average Japanese spends more than \$25 for his furniture. Taking the thirteen million families again, we have \$1,300,000,-000 of dead weight in the way of furniture to carry in opposition to them, and everything else is on a proportionate ratio. Then there is the matter of shoes. The ordinary coolie pays a cent a pair for his straw sandals, and he can get a pair of stilts for wet weather for a quarter. His waterproof, which is made of straw, probably costs him 25 cents more, and for \$2 or \$3 he has a whole wardrobe. His eating is of the simplest, and he can be happy on one-tenth of what our laborers have. The result is the Japanese will always be able to manufacture more cheaply than we do, and one of the biggest speculations of the East will be the utilizing this labor

I have already written of the Japanese candy. They have one kind made of rice and wheat which is good for dyspepsia, and which any child can eat without the stomach ache. This could be imported and sold like the digestive chewing gum. It is furnished sometimes in the form of syrup, and with it on the table we could keep our livers in order and still have the luxury of buckwheat cakes in midsummer. The Japanese make a very cheap black varnish which might be imported at a profit, and they have the softest and most beautiful papers known to the who made a fortune out of little Japanese boxes. He bought these by the hundreds of thousands, shipped them to the United States and filled them with tacks. The tacks were sold at the regular price, and the women bought them in preference to other brands in order to get the boxes. There are numerous other things of this same nature that might be done. One thing is in the making of clock cases. Such cases as we have from Germany and France made in porcelain are very high priced. The Japanese could produce these very much clock cases which would sell at high prices. I mention these things merely as indicative of the vast field which is now open to America in Japan. Remember the Japanese can do anything that we can do, and if you show him a picture of anything under the sun he can copy it. He is packed full of ideas himself, and he is an inventor as well as an imitator. From now on he will want more foreign clothes and more foreign machinery, and America ought to supply a great portion of his needs. THE CHINESE MARKET.

The settlement of the war will bring about a great change in China, and from now on the empire will probably be slowly but steadily opened. The making Nanking a treaty port will give a new foreign settlement at that point, two hundred miles up the Yangtse-Kiang. The government will be obliged to cede a certain amount of land here to the foreigners, and a little foreign city will spring up at this point such as have already sprung up at every open port. In Canton there is an island which is given up to the foreigners. At Hankow the foreign concession covers, I judge, at least a square mile, and at Shanghai many foreigners have made fortunes out of the rise of the real estate in the foreign concession. There are foreign settlements at Tien-Tsin, at Kiuklang and at Chinklang, and in these property is worth much more than in concessions are governed by the foreign property within them if they can, as this frees them from the exactions of the Chinese officials and puts them under foreign law. These concessions are much like foreign cities. They have modern houses. Their streets are macadamized, and they are kept in order by being smoothed with heavy rollers, which are drawn by hundreds of Chinese. They have their own policemen, and are by all odds the most desirable places in China in which to live. The city of Nanking is about five miles back from the river, and is one of the richest cities in China. It was for years the capital of China, and it is in the heart of one of the richest of the Chinese provinces. The foreign concession may be on the river or it may be on the edge of the city. Wherever it is the land is almost certain to increase in value, and an investment in it ought to be good.

acter say that this war will be followed by a great military activity throughout once started. A new navy will the making of arms and the munitions of war. There are now more than 2,000 men at work in the shops at Shanghai. An equal number are probably employed in the gun works at Tien-Tsin, and the Fco Chow ship yards will be pushed to their utmost capacity. The Chinese have seen their necessity for railroads and their lack of ability to move their troops without them. The first road to be built will probably be one from Tien-Tsin to Hankow, and thence to Canton. This has been planned for years, and it will tap a territory containing hundreds of millions of people. The work of getting such concessions will be slow, and it is very doubtful whether foreigners will be allowed to build railroads. If they should be permitted to do so the field for electricity and steam is practically unlimited, and such a revolution in railroad building and manufacturing will take place as will turn the remainder of the industrial world upside down. I don't believe the Chinese will do this at present. They move slowly, but it will come eventually. They will, however, have a great trouble in raising the money to pay Japan, and there is no telling what may be squeezed out of the government at this time. Think of cities of a hundred thousand, five hundred thousand and a million within a few miles of each other.

Those best posted on the Chinese char-

Think of a country as big 'as the United States and containing about eight times as many people with no railroads whatever and no decent wagon roads-a country in most places as flat as a floor and well fitted for railroads without grading and you have something of the condition of China to-day. It is a country which has four thousand walled cities and countless villages. A country where locomotion is expensive and where the people squeeze money harder than they do anywhere else in the world. There is no land on the globe where cheap transportation would pay better. The harvest is ripe for the speculator and the investor if the fence of Chinese conservatism and exclusion can be torn away. Take Peking, with its million and a half of people. It has not a line of street cars. Tien-Tsin. eighty miles away, has a million of people, and is one of the great trading centers of the empire. Those who ride go about in chairs carried on the shoulders of men, and all goods are carted around on wheelbarrows. Tien-Tsin supplies Peking with goods, and there is no railroad between them. It is the same all

CHINESE COTTONS. The Chinese are beginning to make their own cotton cloths. They have a number of large factories, and Li Hung Chang proposes to build others. In these they have modern machinery. A great part of the cloth used is made by

hand, not more than one-fifteenth being imported. Our cotton cloths are more popular than the English or the native cottons, but they cost too much, and sence we send but little manufactured

is enormous. One of the consuls made an estimate of it not long ago. He said that the Chinese are clothed principally Japanese has to pay for his. Multiply- in cotton. There are at least four hundred millions of them, and they use about twenty yards apiece every year. This would make a consumption of eight billion yards a year. Take your pencil now and see what that means. Eight billion yards is twenty-four billion feet, or a strip of cotton a yard wide twentyfour billion feet long. At five thousand feet to the mile this would be more than four million miles long, or enough to reach 160 times around the world. One hundred and sixty feet makes a very wide city street. If you could have three such streets running clear around the world and could patch the cotton used by the Chinese into one vast crazy quilt it would be more than enough to carpet them. Of this enormous amount more than seven and a half billion yards are made by the Chinese, being woven by the women on hand looms. If we could get low freight rates we ought to be able to supply a large part of these cottons. The Chinese want a good cotton, and they need heavy, strong and closely woven goods for winter. In the future they will probably make the greater part of their own goods, but the enormous market which might be created for our raw cotton is almost inestimable. There would be no limit to production if we had it, and with the opening of the Nicaraguan canal the great part of it ought to come to us. The kinds of cottons used by the Chinese are generally blue in color. They use a large amount of drills, and the sails for their vessels are made of this cloth.

The Chinese are now using quite a lot of American lumber. The lumber comes from Oregon and Washington, and it goes as far north as Peking. I saw American pine in the lumber yards of Japan, and I met a man who was trying to introduce it into eastern Siberia. During my stay in Vladivostock an American ship loaded with California wheat was lying at the wharves, and quite a good deal of our flour is now used in China. Strange as it may seem to many, rice is an expensive form of food there, and in the north many of the people are too poor to eat it. There are no big flouring mills in China, and even in the city of Canton, which, you know, contains about 2,000,000 people, I saw oxen grinding flour by dragging one stone about on the top of another. CHINESE LABOR.

It is impossible to appreciate the fortunes which are sure to come sooner heap labor. Remember their labor is as good as ours. I saw a locomotive which they built at the gun works near Shanghai which looked as well as any turned out in our shops, and a Chinese engineer was operating it. He got about 25 cents a day. I saw men making everything under the sun for wages about one-tenth of what the same class of labor receives in the United States, and the Englishman in charge told me that it required only a few months to make a good mechanic out of an ordi-

When the Chinese appreciate that they can manufacture for the world. The coolies and the men who are now working on the roads could be put into the factories and the people will become a nation of mechanics and manufacturers. At present they toil from ten to twelve hours a day for wages which would hardly support a dog in this country. I have before me a list of wages given by Dr. Bedloe when a consul at Amoy. Here are some of them: Barbers get \$3 a month; boatmen, \$4; bricklayers, \$5; masons, \$6; laundry men, \$4, and pavers \$4.50 per month. The plumber is a rich man in America, but he is glad to receive \$6.25 a month in China. Printers receive \$9 a month; tanners, \$6 a month; telegraph operators, \$24 a month; ordinary laborers, \$4 a month. It is the same all over the empire, and the wages may be divided in half, as they are paid in silver, which is worth only half the value of our money.

I could fill a page of this newspaper with the possibilities and the curious features of labor in China and Japan, and the same may also be said of Corea. though there has been until now so little security for the fruits of labor that the people have had no incentive to work. The treaty will bring a new of the old and barbarous customs will now pass away. For some time there will, however, be chances for speculative turns outside of the wonderful resources of the country. One will be when any member of the royal family dies. At this time the whole nation is supposed to go into mourning. Every man in the country has to put on a white straw hat as big as an umbrella and a new gown of yellow grasscloth. The man times is sure to have at least three million men howling for it. He can charge his own price, and can do almost as well as Colonel Sellers hoped to do with his eye water for the millions of crosseved Chinamen. I have already written at length concerning the gold mines, the coal mines and the probabilities of there being large deposits of petroleum in Corea. The country will now be developed and there are good chances in it for American capitalists. FRANK G. CARPENTER.

THE GREAT DANE.

His Courage Entitles Him to Be Called the King of Beasts.

"Most people, I suppose, think that those animals are bloodhounds," said a dog fancier, as the "Uncle Tom" procession, with balf a dozen huge brutes of dogs, muzzled and chained, trooped by in the pelting rain, "but they're nothing of the I never saw bloodhounds on the stage, though I never could tell why, for they are just as tractable as those monster Ulmer dogs in the procession which are commonly used in 'Uncle Tom' performances. The Ulmer is better known to most persons as the Great Dane. They are the bravest animals in the world. Talk of the lion being the king of beasts, that distinction should belong to the dog, and especially to the big Dane. A lion never attacks where he is not perfectly sure of victory. But these dogs, that can kill a

bulidog as quickly as a terrier can kill a

rat, will attack a cage full of lions if ordered to do it. "Darling, the tamer, always has one or more of these dogs about him when he enters a lion's cage, and has owed his life to their courage more than once," continued the fancier. "While giving a performance in Chicago about a year ago he was at-tacked by a lion, but before the ferocious brute could close with him a big Dane that was in the cage had the lion by the throat, and Darling, though stunned and wounded, had time to beat off his assailant and thus save his life. Bismarck is often repre-sented with two of these dogs at his side, for northern Germany is their home. "Now as to bloodhounds. I know them well, for I have paid as high as \$500 for one to put into a kennel. People generally imagine that they are dangerous, but they are dangerous only when trained to track fugitives. A bloodhound is naturally one of the most gentle of dogs. He has three qualities that have caused him to be used for trailing purposes in preference to any other dogs. In the first place he is endowed with a double scent, the most marvelous faculty it is possible to imagine. The true test is 'the clean boot test,' as it is called. A man puts on a pair of new boots. After he is out of sight the hound is brought forth and some article of wearing apparel belonging to the fugitive is given the dog to smell. He is then released, and if he s a fine specimen of his race he is able to track the fugitive through the 'new boots.' If he has not been trained to attack he will come up to the fugitive whining and barking, and leaving up at him to be caressed and fondled, like any other dog, that is fond of his achievement. With his remarkable scent the bloodhound combines great strength, courage and endurance, and these qualities make him indispensable in hunting down escaped convicts and other fugitives. He is easily distinguished by his hanging muzzle, remarkably long and pend-ulous ears, bloodshot eyes, shaggy coat, and long, cur-like tail. The foxhound is a

the setter belonging to the spaniel family. One Kind of Man.

firect descendant of the bloodhound, and

the pointer is also related to him remotely,

First Clerk-I wonder what will be the upshot of that fuss old Munnybags had with is bookkeeper this afternoon? Second Clerk-A disagreeable evening for the Munnybags family.

To invigorate and beautify the hair, use

GLADSTONE AT HOME

FOUR O'CLOCK TEA AT HAWARDEN CASTLE WITH THE EX-PREMIER.

Books, Bees and Other Peaceful Fancies of the G. O. M. Take Up His

Time-No Desire to Die in Harness. Alice Livingstone, in Boston Transcript. Mr. Gladstone has always (so I have been led to understand) refused determinedly to be interviewed. I knew, therefore, that I must avoid the asking of too many questions, and that politics must be almost, if not quite, tabooed. But, to make a long story short, we arrived at Hawarden Castle in time for tea on Monday, which we had very early for most English houses-a little after four-in a delightful drawing room, so full of interesting and beautiful things that had our host and hostees been people even a degree or two more ordinary and like sublunary folk, we should have felt inclined to spend at least an hour in examining its various adornments. Many of Mr. Gladstone's "fads" (if one might use such an insignificant word to express his fancies) were represented in the drawing room. There were cabinets full of rare old china, upon which he is known to be a great authority, and some very good pictures. There were qauntities of flowers, too-great bowls of them-not only blossoms from the hothouse, but the daffodils and primroses and violets of early spring. "We are both very fond of flowers," said Mrs. Gladstone, in answer to some remark called forth by the radiant collection. "But it is Mr. Gladstone who is the botanist, I have very little scientific knowledge of the things I love so well." We were alone with Mrs. Gladstone at first, for Mr. Gladstone was engaged at the moment, and we were given vaguely to understand that the engagement had "something to do with bees." "Mr. Gladstone is rather interested in bees at present," said the gracious lady in soft black silk and lace fichu, as her white hands busied themselves among the tea The hands of elderly ladies which have been daintily kept throughout their lives are so pathetically pretty, it seems to me. "We are glad to be at home again," she said. "It is such a pleasure to return to this beautiful

country of ours in the spring-to watch the very beginnings of everything, as we do here. I think I never so thoroughly enjoyed the daffodils, and the few cowslips that have already appeared, as I have this year, since our return from the south of France. And then it is so good to know that Mr. Gladstone's health has been so greatly improved by our trip abroad. Perhaps he now feels the benefit of the change even more than he did while out of England. He has still wonderful vitality, I am thankful to say. And really, he has not been as well as he is this spring for years. No doubt rest had much to do with the improvement as well as change of air and scene, although I think Mr. Gladstone has always enjoyed a remarkable faculty for resting in the midst of work which would have overwhelmed many men. As I dare say you have have heard, before delivering some speech upon which much depended for himself, as well as the interests of his party, he can refresh himself by a draught of Homer, or perhaps even a chapter from some modern novel. It is a very excellent thing to be able to thus abstract the thoughts from an engrossing subject, is it not? I wish I might myself learn the lesson.'

THE MADAME TALKED. I thought Mrs. Gladstone did not seem averse to talking of her husband, and as we were far more anxious to have her do so than she could possibly have been I was about to give the subject another little fillip, when Mr. Gladstone himself came in, smiling, and walking with marvelous lightness and elasticity. He, unfortunately, was not ready to talf of himself. Of anything or anybody else he seemed ready and willing to converse, but we stretched both our ingenuity and tact to their utmost extremity in continually drawing him back to the (from our point of view) all-fascinating topic. "I admit," he said, when we had managed to ask a question or two regarding his eyes, "that some months ago I had looked forward with uneasiness toward the future. It has never been my wish, I may say, to 'die in harness.' For years I had anticipated giving myself an interval of rest, as my days were closing in. Yet the thought of living in the darkness-I will not say fear, for those who think with me have no fear of what Providence may send-but the thought that some years of my life might be spent under such a cloud was a grievous one. I am able to put it away from me now with a peaceful heart. It is given to me to delight in the reading of books, as of old. I am hoping that it may be so

"It was a hope that came very near to being disturbed at Christmas time." said Mrs. Gladstone, "notwithstanding that the operation for cataract had been so successfully performed. Mr. Gladstone was reading one evening, rather late. and being quite alone in his study (which is rather a large room, and owing to the great quantity of bookshelves is also somewhat difficult to light) went himself to fetch a book from a distant corner. He took a candlestick in one hand, and held several books under the other arm. He had neglected to close the lower drawer of his writing table, and in rising stumbled and struck his forehead on the uncovered parquet floor. He realized that he was badly shaken, and that his head was considerably hurt, but he made light of the affair to us. However, next morning, when the family assembled as usual for prayers, he found it impossible to read even the large print in the Bible from which he takes the lessons for the day. I was very anxious, naturally, after all he had so lately gone through, but after a day or so of complete rest, advised by the doctor, and keeping his eyes closed a great deal of the time, his sight was mercifully restored, without being in the least permanently injured by the experience." "I should like so much," I implored to hear how Mr. Gladstone passes his days-just the programme of one of the days which telleth another." The Grand Old Man smiled. And it is something to have lived for, to have seen him smile. It is as though a rare porcelain lamp was suddenly illumined with a clear radiance within-so white is the livid face-so brilliant the deep-set eyes. A DAY'S PROGRAMME.

"If you are really good enough to be interested in so small a thing," he said, "it is easily told, and in a few words. During our trip abroad the physician's orders were merciless. Breakfast was to be taken in bed at the late hour of half-past eight. All necessity for such a lazy habit of life has passed away now, however. We rise about half-past seven, attend morning service at the village church, to which, as it is scarcely a mile away, we usually walk. After that we breakfast, although, I am ashamed to say, I have sometimes of or coffee, which is kindly given me at the rectory, if I require it. I do not know that I would recommend the habit, but I am myself very fond of reading a book as I dress in the morning. It was thus that I read, a couple of months ago, the life of Professor Owen, with extreme enjoyment and profit. I have found my pleasure in some at-tempts at literary labor, and therefore roneously styled. My ideal woman has I can scarcely refer to it as work, when

BROSNANS

To-Morrow

gain Week on record.

SILK SALE.

Think of buying Silks at about what you've been paying for common cotton dress goods; that's what you can do at to-morrow's sale.

First lot consists of 75 beautiful styles in Swivel Wash Silks, sold everywhere for 50c; sale price.. Figured India Silks..... 12c

Changeable Taffeta Silks.....281/20 Kai Ki Wash Silks at..... Black Moire Antique Silk, 29c worth 75c a yard, at..... A lot of rich Satin Brocades Satin Duchess and Taffeta Silks; 69c Linings

sale, a yard.....

Grains, etc., a grand choice, yard

Taffeta Dresden Silks, 75 styles to select from, going at........ 39c Lot elegant Black Dress Silks, including our regular \$1.25, \$1.50 and \$1.75 Faille Française Satin Duchess, Satin Rhadames, Gros

NEW BLACK DRESS GOODS

TWO CASES of Black Dress Goods which should have arrived two months ago came to us last week. We wired the manufacturerers that we would not accept them, as the goods were not shipped when ordered, so they wired us back such a low price that we decided to keep

Fine all-Wool Black Serge, 39c bought to sell at 65c; you can

Another lot all-Wool Serge, bought to sell at 40c, you can 21c have them at The bargain of all is a 48-inch double-warp, strictly all-Wool Black Serge, worth from 85c to 49c \$1; sale price.....

9c a yard for regular 15c Black Sateens. 20 pieces all-Wool fancy Black Goods, great value at 671/2c; dur-

To-Morrow

gain Week on record.

Colored

Dress Goods

Imported Dress Goods for... \$1 Silk and Wool Novelties for.. 50c All-wool Serges and Henri-Cream Albatross, usually 65c, at Cream Henriettas at 25c, 35c, Worth 50 per cent. more. Cream Silk and Wool Novelties, worth \$1.56, at.....

Come early to-morrow. These price	1
positively for Monday only.	
Regular 10c Hair Cloth, per yard 2	ú
Regular 15c All Linen Grass Cloth,	2
per yard 9	ĕ
Domilan 10x Chinalina	
Regular 10c Crinoline 5	
Regular 121/2c Silesia 7	
Best Cambric Lining31/2	ġ
Double-faced Silesia 10	
62-inch Fiber Interlining 8	
35c everywhere, our price 24	ì
Gilbert's 15c Percalines 10	١
Real French Hair Cloth, very scarce	
even at 75c; our price for black 50	ĕ

Fine Wash

French Organdie Lawns for Wash Challies, new patterns, 25c Scotch Dimity, newest styles, for Scotch Dress Challies for...... 35c Silk Striped Challies for.... 25c Creponette, for hot weather, Imported Printed Pique for..... Fine Zephyr Ginghams for 81/2c Fancy and Indigo Blue Calicoes Apron Ginghams......
American Dress Ginghams..... Percales, yard wide..... Percales, narrow width.....

Striped Chambreys.....

Commences the biggest Bar-{ Commences the biggest Bar-{ Monday, commences the big-

20c Scotch Plaid Dress Goods for 25c Novelty Dress Goods for.... 35c Jacquard Dress Goods for....

Come early to-morrow. These price
positively for Monday only.
Regular 10c Hair Cloth, per yard 2
Regular 15c All Linen Grass Cloth,
per yard 9
Regular 10c Crinoline 5
Regular 121/2c Silesia 7
Best Cambric Lining31/2
Double-faced Silesia 10
62-inch Fiber Interlining 8
35c everywhere, our price 24
Gilbert's 15c Percalines 10
Real French Hair Cloth, very scarce
even at 75c; our price for black 50

Dress Goods

To-Morrow,

gest Bargain Sale on record. Opening sale of a big purchase of

Lace and Chenille Curtains

At such low prices that will make your eyes open wide? with wonder.

150 pairs handsome Scotch Lace Curtains, good length, regular lar price \$1.50 a pair, specially quisite patterns, regular price and frieze, all colors, regular \$1.98 price \$3.50 a pair, reduced to...
75 pairs Figured Chenille Portieres, rich effects, regular price \$4.50 a pair, specially re- \$2.50 Heavy Silk Mits at 19c and 25c. duced to..... 250 pairs of 72-inch-wide Chenille

Ladies' Laundered Waists

Where else will you see bargains like Laundered Waists of fine Per-and checks, plain and piped, large sleeves, high collar, soft figured, the new collar, yoke back, large sleeves, etc.; a very stylish Waist, worth \$1.50

Duck Suits

Suits, very full skirts, reefer and blazer jackets, choice of \$1.98 all lengths of sleeves, never before sold for less than 50c; to-morrow's Another lot regular \$2.50 Duck \$1.19 All-wool Suits at \$2.50, \$3.50 and \$5. worth coming miles to see.

Separate Skirts UMBRELLAS

To-Morrow's Sale of MILLINERY

Choice and artistic productions from our own work room. Originality and variety unequaled.

Trimmed Hats and Bonnets, \$1.98, \$2.50, \$3 and \$3.50. Perfect gems. 100 Sailor Hats, 25c goods, 9c.

PARASOLS Come and see the handsomest line in the city at lowest prices.

Closing Out SPRING CAPES

All-Wool Capes at..... 98c Worth \$1.50. All-Wool Capes at......\$2.00 Worth \$3.95. 98c All-Wool Spring Capes, regu-\$4.50

100 dozen Ladies' 8-button Mosque taire Kid Gloves, well worth \$1,25: choice Monday 59c pair; all sizes.

Portieres, handsome dado and frieze, heavy knotted fringe, a \$3.98 Bargains for Everybody

Heavy Cream Table Linen.... Good Loom Dice Table Linen..... Fine Bleached Table Linen.... Turkey Red Damask..... German Oil Red Damask..... All-Linen Napkins, fringed, a doz...... Glass Linen Towels, fringed...... Heavy Huck Towels, fringed. Fine Damask Towels, knotted fringe .. Heavy Brown Kitchen Toweling Plaid Linen Glass Toweling .. Ready-made Sheets, 2½ yards long..... 36-inch Real Lonsdale Muslin. 10-4 Bleached Pepperell Sheeting...... 10-4 Brown Pepperell Sheeting...... 70C) 25c Table Oilcloth Mosquito Net.....

SHIRTS

40 dozen Unlaundered White Shirts, reinforced front and back, case fast-colored Percale Shirts, extension neck band and pocket; perfect fitting; a dozen choice patterns to select from.....

200 Skirts, made of extra fine quality Black Satin, finest All-wool Crepons, Serges and Diagonals, lined all the way through with Hair Cloth and Percaline, full regulation back, large sweep, sold up to \$20, all reduced to \$4.98, \$6.50 and \$9.00.

Ladies' Gloria Silk Umbrellas, a choice selection of natural wood handles.

75 Gents' 28-inch handsome Silk Umbrellas, buck horn, ivory and fancy handles; this Umbrella is \$1.75

Brosnan Bros.,

37 and 39 S. ILLINOIS STREET.

I say that I spend some hours before luncheon in writing. I am at present engaged upon a new edition of Bishop Butler, who, to my mind, was one of the noblest men and wisest writers who ever blessed the earth with his influence. This work, if I must call it so. has brightened my few holidays for the past ten years. I have heard that another book on much the same lines will soon be ready for publication, probably before my own can possibly see the light, but I do not for this reason al-

low myself to be discouraged. I shall persevere until the end is reached." "You sometimes read novels, do you not, Mr. Gladstone?" one of us asked. "Yes, I allow myself some light reading usually each day after dinner. think the two, perhaps, which have seemed to me the most worthy of reflection, during the past year, have been 'Esher Waters' and 'The Year of Jubilees.' Both seemed to me strong and able works, which ought to live, when many of their contemporaries are for-

"It is wonderful that you find time to do so much," I said, amazed. "Perhaps it is because he is so punctual, and expects everybody else to be so," smiled Mrs. Gladstone. He is always ready for everything-and does everything very quickly. For instance, in less than five minutes. I cannot myself conceive how he does it, though I am not one to waste much time, or encourage others to waste it, on personal adornment." "I wonder if we might dare ask

whether you ever glance at any of theer-pictorial representations of yourself in the newspapers and magazines?" I queried, trembling.

DOESN'T SEE HIS PICTURES. "Caricatures, you mean," he said, smiling again. "Well, you see one cannot do everything, especially so old a man as I, and so, as I must give up something, I have of late years given up the newspapers almost entirely Even when I do make an exception to my general rule, by reading one, I find other subjects far more interesting than what may have chanced to be said of me. But I fear that Mrs. Gladstone does sometimes look to see how the journals have represented me. I think, at one time, she had even gone so far as to make a small collection of sketches, with what object I am somewhat divided in opinion. However, I am quite sure that she has ceased so to amuse herself long ago.' "Do you ever go to the theater, Mr. Gladstone?" I asked.

"I seldom find myself equal to, or inclined for, theater-going of late, but I cannot go so far as to say that I have given it up. I confess, however, that a quiet game of backgammon in the evening, when I have laid aside a book, has for me a great charm. It is a game which can scarcely be excelled by any modern invention-assuredly not super-"Will you tell me what is your favor-

"There are many answers which I might be tempted to give to such a question," replied Mr. Gladstone. Yet the one which I would regard afterwards with the most satisfaction would be-theology. It has been the study of my life, though I am at eighty-five but on the threshold, as a learner. Over that threshold I may only pass with

ite study?" I inquired, emboldened by

I was wondering, knowing what a linguist Mr. Gladstone is, whether he would not mention the study of languages. But evidently he did not care late felt the necessity of a cup of tea | to rank it with theology. And so, without questioning him further on that subject, I ventured to ask hastily what was his opinion of the "New Woman" and the stir she is creating in the "I am too old a man," he returned,

"to have an opinion of any kind on the 'New Woman,' as I consider that

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that it is not probable she will do so in the time that is left." I would like to have said a word or two more of the "eternal feminine," but suddenly remembering how much of Mr. and Mrs. Gladstone's time I had taken up I experienced much of the dismay that poor Cinderella must have been a prey to after the stroke of midnight. And so I bethought myself of making

the necessary move toward tearing our-

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fairest flowers of Hawarden in our

hands, and some memories, even more

and ten, and I may affirm positively

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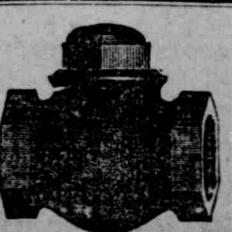
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